

and permit discrimination by public/private institutions and businesses against members of the LGBTQ+ community in various ways. Leaders in my home state of Illinois are working to protect the rights of members of the LGBTQ+ community. Unfortunately, not every state offers protection to everyone. I will continue to support my state's efforts and to advance federal efforts to promote equality and protect the civil rights of the LGBTQ+ community.

I encourage those in my home City of Chicago, my state of Illinois, and across our country to embrace Pride Month, join in advocacy for LGBTQ+ rights, and embrace equality. And, if you're in Chicago, I encourage you to celebrate Pride via a number of wonderful events, including Pride Fest, the Chicago Pride Parade, the Pride in the Park music festival, Navy Pier Pride with wonderful family activities, or the Proud to Run 5k/10k or half marathon.

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HONORING LIEUTENANT ERIKA CASTELLUCCI AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR PRIDE MONTH

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**HON. DARREN SOTO**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 28, 2022*

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, Lieutenant Erika Castellucci is a true Floridian having been raised in South Florida. She graduated from Florida State University and worked as a senior legal assistant for the capital appeals division of the Florida Attorney General's Office. After a few years, she found a passion to take a more proactive approach and put herself through the Pat Thomas Law Enforcement Academy. While in the academy, she was recruited to join the Kissimmee Police Department, where she has risen to the rank of lieutenant after 16 years of service.

Lieutenant Castellucci proudly identifies as a lesbian and has been a member of the LGBTQ community for as long as she can remember. As part of her community outreach, she collaborated with The Center in Kissimmee as soon as it opened. Lieutenant Castellucci has been used as a member of the Kissimmee Police Department to highlight the progressive stance the City of Kissimmee takes for all LGBTQ members. She also served on the board for GOAL CFL for 2 years.

During her 16 years at the Kissimmee Police Department, Lieutenant Castellucci has never ignored opportunities to help other LGBTQ members in need. Having her own coming out story from growing up helped drive her motivation to assist anyone struggling to make sure they knew the resources available to them and at times just be an ear to listen to their own struggles. One of her proudest moments was having the opportunity to march in the 2021 Orlando Pride parade hand in hand with her fiancée as people showered all law enforcement with support. In those moments, it shows that we are all human with our own stories to be proud of.

HONORING NEAL EWALD

**HON. JARED HUFFMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 28, 2022*

Mr. HUFFMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in celebration of Neal Ewald as he retires from a long and productive career with Green Diamond Resource Company (GDRC). Mr. Ewald's 45-year career in the Northern California timber industry has been marked by efforts to improve timber management, environmental protections, and business practices.

Starting as a forester and logging engineer with Arcata Redwood Co. in 1978, Mr. Ewald went on to become the company's Resource Manager. He was then hired by Simpson Timber Co. as Resource Manager, and was later promoted to General Manager. In these roles, Mr. Ewald played a critical role in the acquisition of Arcata Redwood Co., as well as the development of Simpson's Habitat Conservation Plan for the protection of northern spotted owls. He was part of the team that restructured Simpson Timber Co. into GDRC, and was appointed vice president of California Timberlands in 2003.

During his time as vice president and General Manager of GDRC, the company adopted the ambitious Aquatic Habitat Conservation Plan, which guided timber practices to conserve several protected aquatic species. From 2008 to 2018, Mr. Ewald worked diligently with Western Rivers Conservancy to transfer 48,000 acres of sacred land to the Yurok Tribe. Mr. Ewald oversaw the refurbishment of California Redwood Co.'s chip export dock, an investment in Twin Creeks Timber and purchase of 350,000 acres in five southern states, and GDRC's Marten Safe Harbor Agreement and Forest Habitat Conservation Plan.

Promoted to senior vice president in 2019, Mr. Ewald helped GDRC acquire 293,000 acres in Montana, and form the Montana Timberlands Division and its Native Fish Habitat Conservation Plan. With a 90,000-acre expansion of Twin Creeks in 2021, GDRC now owns and manages 2.2 million acres in 10 states.

A consummate traveler, scuba diver, pilot, and family man, Mr. Ewald has served as a volunteer for numerous timber and agriculture advocacy organizations, and as a board member of Hospice of Humboldt, Humboldt State University, the Humboldt Area Foundation, and the Eureka Chamber of Commerce.

Madam Speaker, Neal Ewald's many contributions to the North Coast community as a leader for Green Diamond Resource Co. will leave a lasting impression for generations. Please join me in congratulating him on a prosperous career and an exciting and meaningful retirement.

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AMERICAN PORT ACCESS PRIVILEGES ACT OF 2022

**HON. JOHN GARAMENDI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 28, 2022*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, today I introduce the "American Port Access Privi-

leges Act of 2022," with my friend and colleague Congressman JIM COSTA (D-CA). The COVID-19 pandemic exposed the shortcomings in the international ocean shipping industry and the global supply chain. Congress must restore fairness at our ports for American exporters to help reduce the United States' longstanding trade imbalance with countries like mainland China. Our legislation seeks to do just that, building upon my bipartisan Ocean Shipping Reform Act of 2022 (Public Law 117-146) signed by President Biden on June 16, 2022.

Foreign-flagged vessels' access to the American market and its consumers is a privilege, not a right. Even during a global pandemic, multinational companies looking to offload foreign-made products at West Coast ports must provide opportunities for American exports in return. California's agricultural exporters, manufacturers, and other businesses are willing to pay to ensure their products reach emerging markets in the Asia-Pacific. Dozens of agricultural exporters have contacted my office reporting that ocean carriers simply refused to accept cargo bookings for American exports, instead sending containers back empty to East Asia as quickly as possible. Congress must ensure reciprocity in trade and the ocean shipping industry, which is dominated by a handful of foreign-flagged ocean carriers. Some of these foreign ocean carriers are effectively state-controlled enterprises.

Our "American Port Access Privileges Act" would correct the structural disadvantages facing American exporters at our nation's ports by rewarding ocean carriers that serve both importers and exporters. First, the bill would codify the current preferences for military, Jones Act, and other U.S.-flagged vessels in place at many major American ports. Second, the bill would establish a secondary berthing preference for ocean-going commercial vessels servicing multiple ports in the United States or with significant cargo bookings of American exports.

This new preferential berthing will reward ocean carriers that serve both importers and American exporters by moving those vessels to the front of the queue for unloading and loading. It will similarly incentivize ocean carriers to make second-leg voyages to ports like the Port of Oakland, which is critical for California's agricultural exporters. Any port authority seeking federal funding from the Maritime Administration's port infrastructure development grant program would be required to accept these berthing preferences.

However, our bill ensures that the new preferential berthing and port access for export carrying-vessels would never interfere with U.S. Coast Guard orders for commercial vessels, port safety, or collective bargaining agreements for port workers. I recognize that the international shipping industry is variable and that cargo bookings often change last minute, requiring ocean carriers, port operators, and maritime workers to remain flexible. That is why our American Port Access Privileges Act would require that export-carrying vessels seeking preferential berthing report cargo bookings at least 7 days in advance to port operators.

Lastly, our bill would authorize the U.S. Department of Transportation's Bureau of Transportation Statistics to collect data on berthing and cargo practices at U.S. ports. This will

evaluate ocean carriers' practices for port calls and cargo bookings, as well as the impact of preferential berthing afforded under our bill. A similar data-collection provision sponsored by U.S. Senator ROGER F. WICKER's (R-MS) on container and chassis availability is incorporated as Section 16 (Dwell Time Statistics) of the Ocean Shipping Reform Act of 2022 (Public Law 117-146), of which I was the House sponsor.

Madam Speaker, I urge all members to co-sponsor the American Port Access Privileges Act to ensure fair trade for U.S. businesses and keep hard-won foreign markets accessible to California's agricultural exporters. As a senior member of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the former ranking member of the Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation from the 113th to the 115th Congresses, I plan to make this legislation a major priority.

HONORING KERI K. GRIFFIN AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR PRIDE MONTH

### HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 28, 2022*

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, Keri Griffin has been working as a clinical social worker since 1996. Keri's first job was working in detox at Miami Valley Hospital in Dayton, Ohio. Keri then graduated from the University of Dayton in 1997 with a major in psychology and minors in social work and sociology. Keri graduated with her master's in social work from the University of Maryland School of Social Work in Baltimore, Maryland, in 1999 with a clinical concentration and substance abuse specialization.

While working on her master's, Keri worked at the Social Work Community Outreach Service at Maree Farring Elementary School and with the University of Maryland Medical System intensive outpatient program and maternal substance abuse and acupuncture program. After graduating with her master's, Keri continued to work in Baltimore at the Johns Hopkins University Cornerstone program and the University of Maryland Medical System comprehensive recovery program. Keri moved to Florida in 2000 and became a licensed clinical social worker and a certified addictions professional in the state of Florida. Keri has worked with Lakeside Alternatives at the Orange Regional Juvenile Detention Center, at the Center for Drug-Free Living Addiction Receiving Facility, as well as at the Women's Residential Program in Kissimmee and at Mental Health Network.

For almost 17 years, Keri has worked at the Orlando VA Health Care System. Keri worked for her first 5 years at the VA in the alcohol and drug abuse treatment program and for 12 years as a therapist in the mental health clinic. For the past 12 years, Keri has served in collateral duty roles as the Orlando VA's LGBTQ+ special emphasis program manager and veteran care coordinator—providing support and services for employees and veteran patients as well as training and education, outreach, and development of community partnerships. Through dedication and hard work, Keri

was able to facilitate and elevate the LGBTQ+ veteran care program coordinator to a full-time position at the OVAHCS as of Fiscal Year 2021-22. Keri serves as the VA VISN 8 LGBTQ+ veteran care coordinator lead, is the national LGBTQ+ VCC lead forum lead, developed and facilitates a monthly inter-disciplinary LGBTQ+ treatment team at the OVAHCS, and chairs the OVAHCS LGBTQ+ special emphasis program working closely with the diversity and inclusion team and the EEO at the OVAHCS.

Due to her hard work with the LGBTQ+ veteran population at the VA, Keri received national I CARE awards in 2015, 2018, 2020, and 2021, the VA Social Worker of the Year Award for 2016, and a National Special Contribution Award in 2016 for her contributions after the Pulse tragedy. Keri recently received a Certificate of Special Recognition for Federal Employee of the Year, Honorable Mention, for Service to the Community for Central Florida 2022.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF AMY LANGDON

### HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 28, 2022*

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Amy Langdon on the occasion of her 100th birthday. Her contributions to our community as a Rosie the Riveter are worthy of commendation.

Born on July 25, 1922, Mrs. Langdon was born and raised in Detroit, Michigan, she attended Northern High School until her family moved to Huntington Woods, Michigan prior to her senior year. She graduated from Royal Oak High School in 1940. She later attended Michigan State University where she studied History. During her summers off from college she worked at Hudson's in Downtown Detroit. In 1943 she was offered the opportunity to serve her country and work at the Highland Park Ford plant where she did the electrical wiring on the M-5 Director, which determined the altitude of an aerial targets. Working on this confidential project, she didn't know the names of the other women she worked with and wasn't able to tell her family about her top-secret job. She played a critical role in supporting American troops overseas and provided for the defense of our soldiers during World War II. As one of the original Rosie the Riveters, Amy's hard work, grit, and patriotism not only sustained the American war effort, but paved a path for the next generation of working women.

While attending Michigan State University she met her husband, who served in the United States Air Force. She traveled to the military base by train on her own and they married on March 20, 1945. Together they spent their life raising their family and traveling to over fifty-five countries. In her spare time, she is an avid golfer, puzzle enthusiast, and talented oil painter. The longest running volunteer in Beaumont hospital history, she has delivered mail to patients for over forty-five years until COVID hit. An active member of her community and a friend to all, she is a longtime member of Philanthropic Educational Opportunities for Women and multiple garden

clubs. Beloved by her family, she made sure that she hosted Thanksgiving every year. The biggest Michigan State sports fan, she never misses a football or basketball game.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating Amy Langdon on her 100th birthday. I join with her family—including her two children, two grandchildren, and two great grandchildren and friends in extending my best and warmest wishes to her on this special day and as they dedicate a rosebush in her honor at the Ross McFadden House in Dearborn. I am proud to honor her life, her accomplishments, and her invaluable contributions to our nation as a Rosie the Riveter. Today we should all live by her motto as we celebrate one hundred years of Amy—Yesterday is gone, tomorrow isn't here yet, I live for today.

HONORING MR. PEDRO "PETE" MORALES

### HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 28, 2022*

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life achievements of Mr. Pedro "Pete" Morales, in celebration of his 80th birthday. Born June 22, 1942, Mr. Morales has selflessly served his community in Red Hook, Brooklyn for over 73 years.

When he was a boy, Pete Morales' family was one of the first from Puerto Rico to move into Red Hook public housing. Being a minority among Irish and Italian immigrants made them a target. Pete's father had to send his son back to Puerto Rico for a period after Pete's younger brother Nelson was badly beaten. Nevertheless, Pete returned to Red Hook to box every one of his brother's attackers and grew to get along with everybody regardless of nationality or ethnicity. Everyone grew to love Pete.

As Commissioner of the Red Hook Youth baseball league, Pete Morales coached generations of kids growing up in his beloved community. Pete has also been a voice for tenant rights, affordable housing and served as an active member of Fifth Avenue Committee's advisory board for new affordable housing in the neighborhood. Pete has also been a tireless advocate for the environment and better neighborhood conditions through Red Hook Groups Against Garbage Sites (GAGS) which fought a massive trash incinerator and countless solid waste transfer stations seeking to cluster in the community which were successfully reversed. Mr. Morales has long served at Visitation Church as a Eucharistic Minister and continues to be a recognized elder.

Mr. Morales remains a solid pillar of the community, well respected by generations of neighbors, leaders, and the local clergy from his decades of community service. Through his life-long dedication to his community, Pete Morales has made Red Hook a better place to live. I thank Mr. Pedro Morales for his public service and offer him best wishes for a well-deserved and happy 80th birthday.